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ical leaves involute, 6 to 12 inches long; cauline ones 3 or 4, distant, narrow, becoming involute, acuminate, lower 6 to 8 inches long, upper 1 to 2 inches, scabrous; ligule 3 to 4 lines long, lacerate: panicle linear, 6 to 10 inches long, branches in twos or threes, closely appressed, the lower 1 or 2 inches long, flowering to the base, branchlets short and erect; pedicels and rhachis scabrous: spikelets 2 lines long; empty glumes half as long, nearly equal, obtuse and denticulate at the apex, membranaceous; flowering glume 2 lines long, rigid, 3-nerved, acuminate, and terminating in a minute awn, about a line long; palea as long as its glume, acute.—Number 1993, C. Wright's collection in New Mexico. A well marked species.—Dr. GEORGE VASEY.

Ambrosia bidentata \times **trifida**.—A hybrid from these parents has been sent to us by Mr. Eggert, of St. Louis. That district is famous for hybrids, Dr. Engelmann having detected so many there, but this one, we believe, is new.

A. GRAY.

Selinum Canadense in Indiana.—The discovery of this northern species in middle Indiana is a very interesting fact. Known to students of Gray's Manual as *Conioselinum Canadense*, or Hemlock-Parsley, its range is entirely north of Indiana, except as it finds its way southward along the higher summits of the Alleghanies, and is usually found in swamps. I found it a little over a mile north of Crawfordsville, clinging to an almost inaccessible bluff wall, in surroundings kept constantly cold and wet by springs. It was in both flower and fruit October 15.—J. N. ROSE.

Dr. George Martin.—Those interested in mycology will be pained to learn of the recent death of Dr. George Martin. The study of our American fungi was with the deceased a thing of recent years, and was taken up mainly because he saw in it an opening for good work in its relation to practical medicine. However it was not long before he became so interested in these plants that almost his whole leisure and strength were given to them. When one remembers how many of the specimens in Ellis' Centuries of North American Fungi were collected, and how many more were critically studied by Dr. Martin, there will be a surprise to know that he had been for years an invalid whose life hung upon the slenderest thread. The deceased left behind him a manuscript volume which might well be published as a memorial of his labors. It contains a large number of colored illustrations, with spore measurements, and descriptions of the fungi he had studied. Such a volume would be a real boon to American mycologists. During his life, when urged by his friends to publish it, his modesty always led him to evade the question or to depreciate the real value of what he had done. He was distinguished as a physician, high-toned and honorable as a man, public-spirited as a citizen, and warm-hearted as a friend. None can regret his death more than his neighbors in West Chester, Pa., who knew and loved him well.—J. T. ROTHROCK.

Two new Californian plants.—On making for the first time a botanical excursion to Monte Diablo I found upon its very summit the little *Campanula* here described which has heretofore been overlooked, probably on account of its diminutive size and ephemeral duration, rather than from its absolute

rarity. It may have been passed over as a *Githopsis*, as it has somewhat the aspect of a depauperate form of this common plant.

The following species of *Gilia* was also found in a district supposed to be pretty thoroughly explored. Professor Gray informs me that I may regard it as a new species, quite as good as some other of the troublesome forms which have come to light, and which almost efface the distinction between the sections *Dactylophyllum* and *Leptosiphon*. I have had Professor Gray's kind and needful help in shaping the characters of these two species so as to render them more diagnostic than they would have been in my inexperienced hands.

CAMPANULA EXIGUA. Annual, 2 to 5 inches high, with spreading branches, hirsute below, puberulent or almost glabrous above: leaves very small (1 to 3 lines long), sessile, lowest lanceolate or obovate, entire or with a few coarse teeth, upper subulate: flowers solitary at end of the slender divergent branches or short peduncles, erect: calyx-lobes subulate-linear, usually twice the length of the campanulate or somewhat turbinate tube, erect, connivent after flowering: corolla oblong-campanulate, light blue; tube about the length of the calyx-lobes, longer than its oblong acute lobes; filaments abruptly dilated below the middle into a broad ciliolate base: style not surpassing the corolla: capsule somewhat urceolate, opening by three valves above the middle.—Summit of Monte Diablo, June 14, 1886. Also collected, July 3, on Tamalpais, by Mrs. Curran, in full fruit and in a larger and coarser form. The species will rank along with *C. Reverchoni* of Texas, in a separate subdivision.

GILIA AMBIGUA. Habit and foliage of *G. Bolanderi*, but more erect and stouter: corolla much larger, over half-inch long, nearly thrice the length of the calyx, its proper tube equalling the latter or somewhat exerted, the obconical brown-purple throat of nearly same length and hardly exceeded by the rotately expanding bluish purple lobes: ovules 2 in each cell.—Very abundant at Oak Hill, four miles south of San Jose, May 15, in flower and fruit. The only other *Gilia* seen near it was *G. dichotoma*.—VOLNEY RATTAN.

A pleasing experiment in laboratory practice.—The following experiment has proved very satisfactory with classes in vegetable anatomy while upon the subject of mucilaginous modification of the cell wall. The student makes a thin section of a flaxseed and places it dry under the $\frac{1}{2}$ objective so that the outer layer of the external coat is in the field. Pass a drop of water under the cover-glass and watch the section. As soon as the liquid strikes the mucilaginous layer the cells composing it at once enlarge and their dissolved contents float out upon the slide. That which before was a hyaline line, seemingly amorphous, becomes a series of cells nearly uniform in size. The thinness of the section and the unusual exposure of the mucilage permits of the quick outward movement of the cells much to the delight of the student. For a time it was quite a puzzle how the side walls of the rapidly expanding cells could accommodate themselves to the sudden expansion. A quantity of flaxseed was soaked in water, the liquid being changed frequently during a day or more, and the seeds afterwards dried with blotting paper. Upon making thin sections of these seeds, and treating the outer layer as above described, the side walls were well defined, and their method of expanding became plain. These